

TIPTON et al.
Appl. No. 10/814,228
January 19, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 2, 3 and 4. Please replace originally filed Figs, 2, 3 and 4 with the attached Replacement Sheets.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding grounds of objection and/or rejection are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the remarks which follow.

The Examiner has objected to claim 1 for the reasons stated on page 2 of the official action. Applicants have amended the preamble of claim 1 to read, "a compressor wheel" mounting a plurality of compressor blades, each blade comprising . . . , " thus overcoming the objection and also establishing antecedent basis for other amendments to the claim discussed below.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Barr et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,019,580).

By this Amendment, applicants have incorporated the subject matter of claims 3 and 4 into independent claim 1, thereby overcoming the §102 ground of rejection.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Ganshaw (U.S. Patent No. 6,183,202).

As noted above, the subject matter of claims 3 and 4 has been incorporated into independent claim 1. In addition, the claim now also requires that the outer rim in the compressor wheel be provided with recesses inset from the outer rim, with underside surfaces of the flanges seated on shoulders of the recesses.

In Ganshaw, the unnumbered flanges projecting from opposite sides of the blade, as best seen in Figure 2, are not seated on base surfaces of the respective underlying recesses. Rather, the mounting arrangement in Ganshaw is such that contact surfaces 42, 44 lie only along an angled surface of the dovetail pressure faces 38, 40, with an open space between the projecting

flanges and the underlying recesses. As such, Ganshaw clearly fails to disclose or suggest the subject matter of independent claim 1 as amended herewith.

Dependent claims 3 and 4 have been canceled and claim 5 is patentable by reason of its dependence upon claim 1.


The specification has been amended to incorporate the precise language added to claim 1. No new matter has been added, however, since the added language is fully supported in the drawings as filed. Further in this regard, the drawings have been amended to add reference numerals 61 and 63.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 6-15 are allowed. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2 and 5 are also now in condition for immediate allowance, and therefore, early passage to issue is requested.

In the event, any small matters remain outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned so that the prosecution of this application can be expeditiously concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Michael J. Keenan
Reg. No. 32,106

MJK:rrl
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

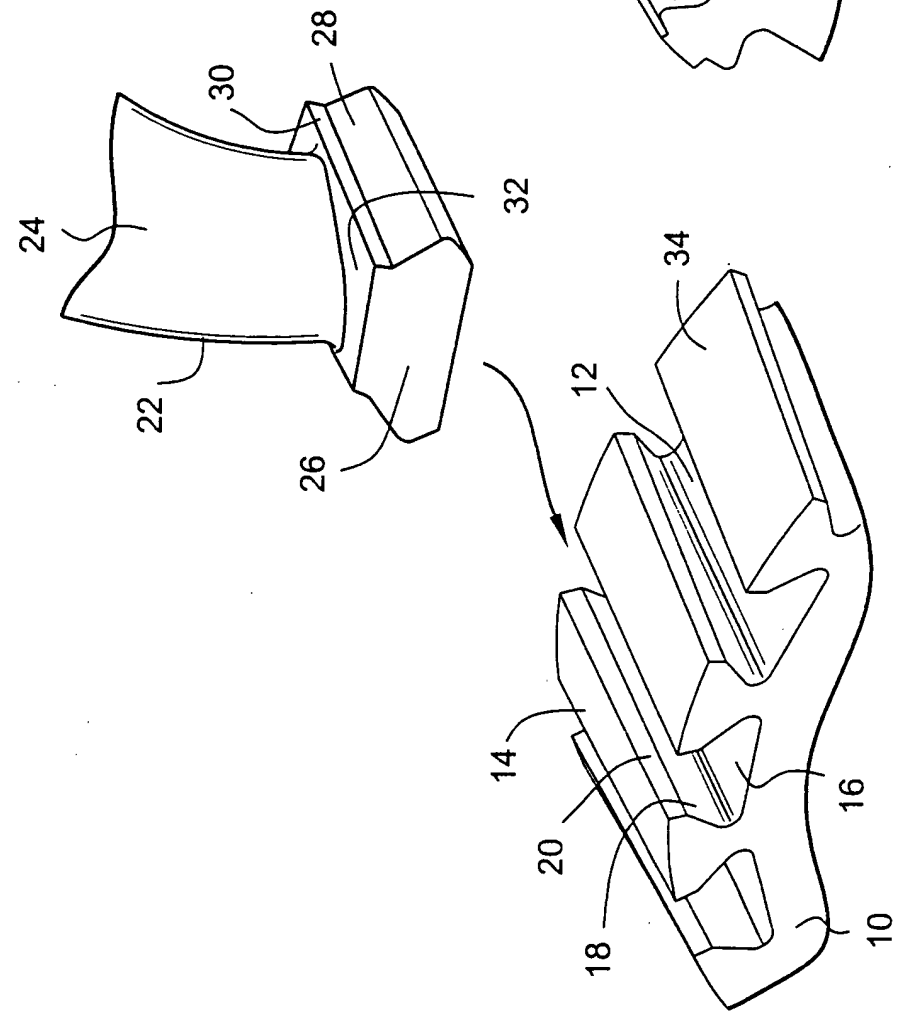
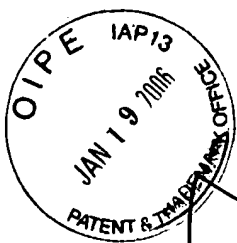


Fig. 1
(PRIOR ART)

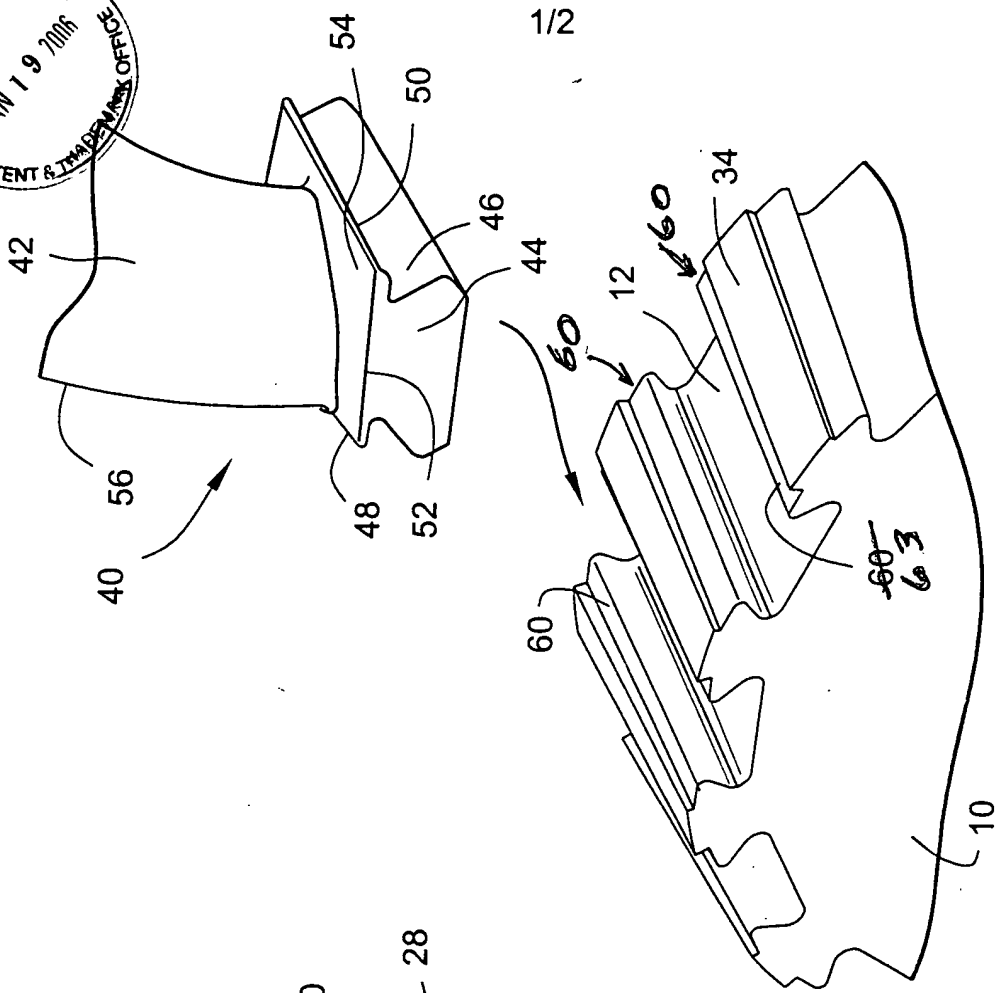


Fig. 2

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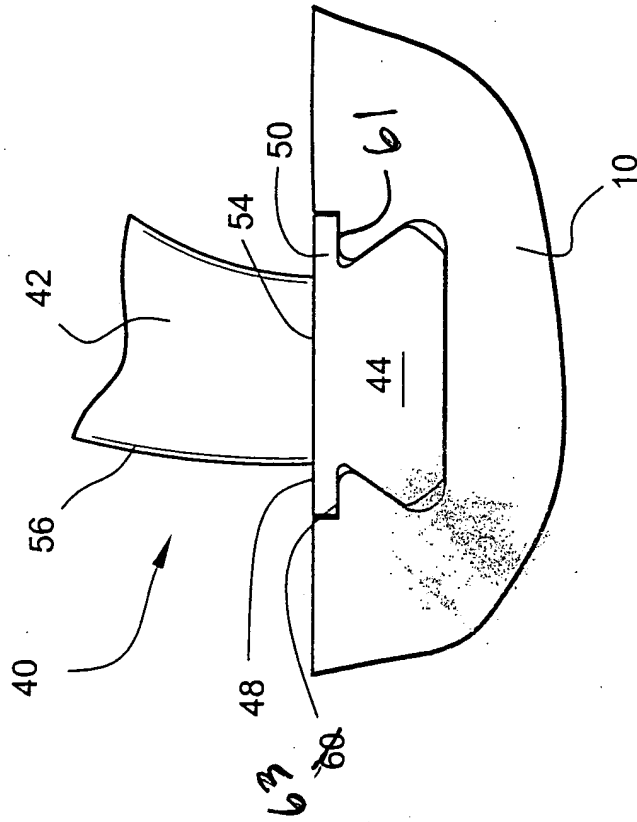


Fig. 3

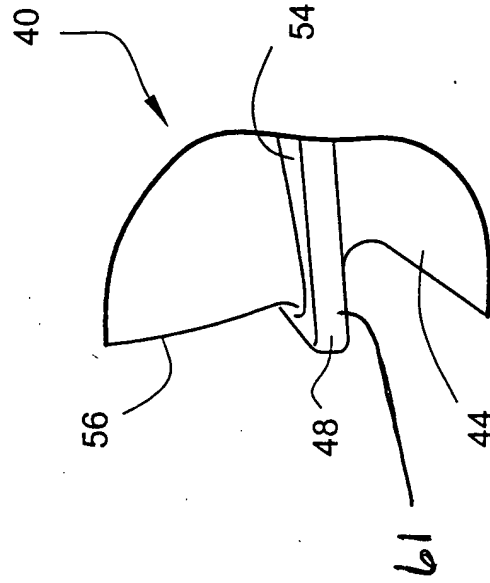


Fig. 4